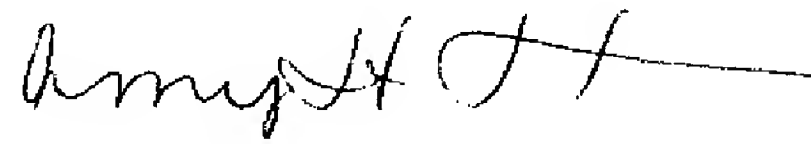


REMARKS

Following acceptance of this amendment, claims 1-25, 27, and 33-37 are pending. Applicants amend the claims to remove unintentional duplication, place them in form appropriate to US practice, and to reduce the filing fee by, *inter alia*, removing multiple dependency. Applicants amend the specification for purposes of adding the priority information. The attached Abstract has been placed on a separate sheet of paper according to US practice.

Respectfully submitted,



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ABSTRACT

The present invention relates generally to novel therapeutic compounds and more particularly to novel compounds, their use as GPR40 agonists, processes for their manufacture, and intermediate compounds useful in their preparation.